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**Websites for Science**

**Visit 5 websites related to elementary and/or middle school science. Write a ½ page summary (for each site) for the site. Include how you could implement this site.**

**1)** <http://www.wordle.net/>

Wordle.net is a great website that shows students different words that are related to the specific content in which you are teaching. It makes it fun and there are several designs that you can use to display these words so that it engages the students and keeps them focused on the content. This is a free site with several different ways to make a word collage. Wordle is simple to use and offers step by step instruction for teachers, even parents, to use. This is a great resource to use for teaching about any idea. This site can be used for spelling words, word walls, sight words, or even a link into a lesson where there are vocabulary words relative to your lesson. Students can see words that are related to one another and associate that with the topic of study. Wordle.net is a great resourceful website.

**2)** [http://www.fodey.com](http://www.fodey.com/)

Fody.com is an awesome website that offers a variety of creative possibilities for free. This site allows users to create personalized newspaper clippings and it has pictures, thought bubbles, animated characters that write your text, a slideshow maker, and photo editor. There are many ways to use this site in the classroom, for a lesson or a simple activity. You can have students write articles about any content related area covered in a lesson, past or present. Being able to write and publish their own article, students would more likely be motivated to write and create more works. This site is a great motivator for writing or reading. One of the other features that seemed fun and interesting for the students is the photo editor. This could be used in many ways too. Taking a not so interesting photo and making it fun, exciting, and new is a great way to add interest to any content lesson or activity.

**3)** [http://camstudio.org](http://camstudio.org/)

Camstudio.org is a free website that allows the user to capture screen shots certain images or other website on their computer. It also allows the user to capture audio action as well. You can use it to create demonstration videos for any software program. CamStudio.org is simple to use and offers a variety of options for creating these customized computer demonstrations. You can create video tutorials for school or college class. This website would be a great tool to use to save a demonstration of how to use a computer program or website. CamStudio.org can be learned in a matter of minutes and comes with a comprehensive built-in help file, so if you **do** manage to get stuck, you can simply hit "Help" and get the answers you need. Having the activity saved will allow students to refer back to the directions if they have any questions about the process. Videos and captions can be added to the demonstration to make it more fun and personable.

**4)** [http://classtools.net](http://classtools.net/)

Classtools.net allows you to create free educational games, quizzes, activities and diagrams in seconds. You can host them on your own blog, website or intranet. This is a free site and very easy to use. There is no signup, no passwords, and no charge. Classtools.net allows you to view your resources in a full-screen, ad-free mode to make learning more interactive, allowing you to get full use of your instruction. There is a place where you can organize, save, and edit anything you use on this site. Everything on this site is print-friendly, which is great for teachers and administrators. I really enjoy the fact that this site allows you to export any picture or document into a presentation slide, such as power point, to make for a more interactive and educational experience.

**5)** <http://www.learner.org/interactives/parkphysics/index.html>

Learner.org is a free and engaging website that helps students learn more about physics, particularly, motion. This site is simple to use and offers instructions and hints in creating your own rollercoaster. Students can see how height, angles, and force contribute to forces of motion and why objects move. This website offers students to go back and correct mistakes. By doing this, it can help students understand (visually) what the mistake was and WHY it was made. This website is a great resource for future lessons and activities. This is a great way to engage students into learning science and to motivating them to want to learn more. I really liked this because this helps me plan for the science unit that I am currently doing. There are many ideas from one activity that can be incorporated in the classroom.